REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-12 are present in this application. Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), claim 1 is rejected over U.S. 5,963,704 (Mimura et al.) in view of JP 2002-300525 (Shunji), claims 2, 7 and 10 are rejected over Mimura et al. in view of Shunji and further in view of U.S. 2004/0062530 (Tsumagari et al.), claims 3 and 5 are rejected over Mimura et al. in view of Shunji and further in view of U.S. 2002/0110369 (Mori et al.) and claims 4, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 12 are rejected over Mimura et al., Shunji and Mori et al. and further in view of Tsumagari et al.

The claims of the present application are directed to a computer readable information storage medium, an information playback apparatus and an information playback method. In the storage medium, the button mode field includes a first flag describing whether a high definition button group exists or not, bits describing the number of button groups, and bits describing a display type of a sub-picture corresponding to the button group. The information playback apparatus and the information playback method also recite the button mode field above. A nonlimiting example of the button mode field is illustrated in Figure 80 which includes a first flag HDGR describing whether the high definition button group exist, bits BTNGR_Ns describing the number of button groups and bits BTNGRx_DSP_TY describing a display type of a sub-picture corresponding to the button group.

Turning to the §103 rejections, the Office Action states on page 3 that Mimura et al. does not disclose a button for high definition or button position information being changed depending on the TV system. The Office Action turns to Shunji, asserting this reference teaches a button for high definition (paragraphs [0008], [0010], [0051] and [0052], the high definition title data) and button position information being changed depending on the TV system (paragraph [0012]). The Office Action further asserts that it would have been obvious to incorporate the button for high definition in Shunji into the system of Mimura et al.

However, Shunji merely teaches high definition image data and nearly high definition title data, as described in paragraphs [0008] and [0010] are displayed together. Shunji seeks to provide a digital video recording device which can record high definition image data and nearly high definition title data, while having maximum transfer rate restrictions of a video stream, and the capacity restriction of a recording medium, as described in paragraph [0008]. As described in paragraphs [0012] and [0013], a letter box picture (Figure 6(a)) in 16:9 aspect ratio is recorded on a full screen. When the recorded image is displayed on a screen with a 16:9 aspect ratio, title data ("good morning" in Figures 6(a) and 6(b)) can be displayed on the main video image. When carrying out enlarged display of the letter box picture shown in Figure 5(a) on a wide-screen TV having a 16:9 aspect ratio, as shown in Figure 5(b), a title ("good morning") currently displayed on upper or the lower portion of the screen may be missing. Further, when the letter box picture is displayed on a conventional 4:3 television, the title is displayed on the belt portion (see Figures 5(a) or 6(a)) since letter boxing is performed before superimposing a reproduced title on the main video image.

Thus, Shunji fails to disclose or suggest a button, as only title information is described. Shunji further fails to disclose or suggest that a range of an x-coordinate value and y-coordinate value of the button are changed depending on the TV system. Claim 1 is therefore patentable over a combination of Mimura et al. and Shunji.

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected relying on Mimura et al. and Shunji for the same reasons as described above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Mimura et al. and Shunji are also deficient with respect to claims 3 and 5 since neither of these references discloses the button or that the range of the x-coordinate value and y-coordinate value of the button are changed depending on a TV system. Mori et al. is relied upon for reasons other than the high definition button or the x- and y-coordinates. Claims 3 and 5 are patentable over a combination of Mimura et al., Shunji and Mori et al.

Claim 10 recites a computer readable information storage medium where the medium stores a program chain information. The program chain information includes a program chain general information which includes a program chain sub-picture stream control table which includes a second flag and a decoding field of a sub-picture stream for 4:3 or HD. The second flag describes whether the coding field is used for decoding a sub-picture stream for high definition or standard definition. As a nonlimiting example, the Applicants refer the examiner to Figures 45-47 and 49, and page 69, lines 8-17 of the present application.

An HD-flag is included in PGC_SPST_CTL which is included in PGC_GI (Fig. 47) and in PGCI (Fig. 46). As shown in Figure 49, PGCI_SPST_CTL includes a decoding field (b28 to b24) for a sub-picture stream. If the decoding field is to be decoded as the sub-picture stream for standard definition, the HD-flag is set to "0b" and if the decoding field is to be decoded as the sub-picture stream for high definition, the HD-flag is set to "1b". Thus, an information storage medium can store button information for high definition and sub-picture information for high definition in addition to button information for standard definition and sub-picture information for standard definition. Therefore, it is possible to present sub-picture information with an improved quality, such as a caption or menu information.

Tsumagari et al. discloses a P_CFG_HD field, as an extension of the conventional P_CFG, designating the display mode of the player, as shown in Fig. 8 (see paragraph [0057]). Fig. 9 shows the values of P_CFG_HD for (1) the SD-DVD video-compatible player, and (2) the HD-DVD video-compatible player. If the value thereof is set to 0b, the SD contents of the DVD disk or the HD-DVD disk are reproduced and if the value thereof is set to 1b, the HD contents of the HD-DVD disk are reproduced (see paragraph [0058]). Also, Tsumagari et al. discloses a video object unit (VOBU) 92 which is internally configured of a first sub-picture pack 96 and a second sub-picture pack 96 of which one is selectable (see paragraph [0047]).

However, Tsumagari et al. fails to teach a program chain information (PGCI) which includes a program chain general information (PGC_GI) which includes a program chain (PGC) sub-picture stream control table (PGC_SPST_CTL) which includes a second flag (HD-flag) and a decoding field of a sub-picture stream for 4:3 or HD, the second flag (HD-flag) describing whether the decoding field is used for decoding a sub-picture stream for high definition or standard definition.

Accordingly, claim 10 is patentable over a combination of Mimura et al., Shunji and Tsumagari et al.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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